

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 343 without my signature.

As I stated when I vetoed AB 1840 last year and AB 89 in 2005, compiling a report of California employers with more than 25 employees whose employees or their dependents are enrolled in public health insurance programs, would provide little value and fail to account for the complex and multi-faceted decision-making process that employees and employers consider when choosing health insurance. As crafted, this bill would yield incomplete information, based on data that most likely can not be verified, and include only a subset of employers, employees and their families. In addition, this bill would cost several million dollars to implement and would unnecessarily increase costs at a time of budget challenges. For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger